

INCOMING TELEGRAM

23 Department of State

ACTION COPY

3
Action
EUR
Info
RMR
SS
G
SP
C
P
UOP
OLI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DATE 9/21/55
REVIEWED BY E.C.
FROM: THE HAGUE
TO: Secretary of State
NO: 425, SEPTEMBER 21, 1955
PASS USIA
REASON(S)
DECLASSIFIED
RELEASE DENIED
PA or FCI EXEMPTIONS
Control: 11234
SEPTEMBER 21, 1955
5:56 PM
File
B.M.

NATIONAL PRESS GAVE FRONT-PAGE PROMINENCE TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOVIET UNION AND FINLAND FOR RETURN OF SOVIET NAVAL BASE AT PORKKALA TO FINLAND OF FOUR IMPORTANT NATIONAL DAILIES EDITORIALIZING, THREE SEE SOVIET MOVE AS "PROPAGANDA PLAY" POINTING OUT THAT SOVIET UNION IS NOT MAKING "SACRIFICE" OF STRATEGIC VALUE BY RELINQUISHING BASE BECAUSE PORKKALA HAS LOST MUCH OF ITS MILITARY IMPORTANCE. INFLUENTIAL LIBERAL NIEUWE ROTTERDAMSE COURANT CONCLUDES EDITORIAL BY STATING THAT "RECENT KRUSHCHEV STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT COMMUNISM WILL BE VICTORIOUS IN LONG RUN WITHOUT HAVING TO TAKE RECOURSE TO WAR IS MORE REVEALING THAN GESTURES WITH WHICH KREMLIN TRIES TO MAKE WEST BELIEVE THAT A COLD WAR IS A THING OF THE PAST". INDEPENDENT DE TELEGRAAF STATES: "IT IS CLEAR THAT RUSSIANS EXPECT TO DRAW RICH DIVIDENDS FROM MOVE AND WILL OFTEN MENTION NAME OF PORKKALA IN COMING MONTHS AS SHINING EXAMPLE IN THEIR PROPAGANDA AIMED AT WEAKENING WEST".

FOURTH PAPER, LIBERAL ALGEMEEN HANDELSBLAD IN EDITORIAL, TAKES DIFFERENT LINE AND ARGUES THAT "SOVIET CONCESSIONS IN RECENT MONTHS REFLECT DESIRE ON PART OF SOVIETS TO MEET DEMANDS OF WEST FOR CONCRETE PROOF OF SOVIET CHANGE OF POLICY MORE THAN HALF WAY AND TO KEEP ALIVE SPIRIT OF GENEVA". EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT WHILE WEST MUST MAINTAIN ITS "ALERTNESS" IN MEANTIME "ALL CAN BENEFIT FROM NEW SITUATION".

RONHOVDE



FILED
OCT 7 1955

PERMANENT

UNCLASSIFIED

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY, IF CLASSIFIED, IS PROHIBITED

660E.61/9-2155

THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE ACCORDING TO